PATENT 0249-0123P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

HAFFNER, Eric

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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREPARING

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

December 7, 2001

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Before line 1, insert — This application is the national phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/PT00/00006 which has an International filing date of June 8, 2000, which designated the United States of America.—